

HABS
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Evangelical Church School
Femme Osage
St. Charles County
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1587

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH SCHOOL

HABS No. MO-1587

Location: Femme Osage, St. Charles County, Missouri

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

The following information was recorded by Alexander Piaget and Charles van Ravenswaay at the time the photograph was taken:

Built 1887 with stones from the old E. and R. Church. A one-story, one-room, country school located in the cemetery of the Femme Osage E. and R. Church.

Hermann Garlichs (1807-1865) was instrumental in the founding of this institution. A son of a wealthy Bermen merchant, he was educated at Gottingen, Leipzig, Bonn, and Munich. A lover of music, he also had knowledge of medicine and is reputed to have spoken seven languages. During the revolutionary upheavals of the 1830s, attracted by the writings of Gottfried Duden, he emigrated to Missouri in the Spring of 1833 with a group of Westphalians of the reformed faith. With some of his companions, he settled on Femme Osage creek in St. Charles County, Missouri. Here in 1834, he bought a farm six miles from Duden's former home.

In 1834-35, while still an unordained gentleman farmer, he was invited to become pastor and he founded the two oldest Evangelical churches in Missouri, at Femme Osage and Friedens Church near St. Charles.

In 1835, he returned to Germany, passed the theological examination at Bielefeld, and married Adelheid von Borries, a member of a titled Prussian family. With his bride, he returned to his log parsonage on the Femme Osage. In 1837, he moved five miles into the heart of the German Femme Osage settlement where a log church had been built. He also taught school. With his own funds he built a new stone parsonage and, aided by friends in Bremen, he also built a new church.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

William G. Bek, "The Followers of Duoen...Herman Garlichs - Theologian," Missouri Historical Review, 40.

Carl E. Sneider, The German Church on the American Frontier, 59-60.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The Piaget-van Ravenswaay Survey consists of a number of photographs, primarily of sites and structures in Missouri, which were taken before 1938 by Alexander Piaget and after that by Paul Piaget, both in conjunction with Charles van Ravenswaay. Photographs of buildings were incorporated into the HABS collection in 1985 by Laura Rupp and in 1986 by Deborah Fulton, HABS historians. A master list is available in the [REDACTED] records for MO-1800.